

*Celebration Of Life
Of
Supertinent Elder Norris Howard*



*Sunrise:
December 22, 1923*

*Sunset:
November 4, 2013*

*Service
Friday, November 15, 2013
11:00 AM
Acts Full Gospel C.O.G.I.C
1034 - 66th Avenue
Oakland, California 94621*

Obituary

Norris Howard

November 4, 2013

affectionately called, ("Boy Baby" and "Papa") 89, of Berkeley, CA, passed away on

Norris Howard was born on December 22, 1923 in Fairfield, Texas to Willie and Arthula (Jackson) Howard. As a toddler Norris lived on a farm with his family. He was one of the youngest of his parent's children and spent much of his time alongside his mother, helping her with the laundry, hunt for turkey nests, and fish at a nearby creek.

In 1936, Norris was born again by accepting Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior at Hemphill Temple C.O.G.I.C. in Fairfield, TX. He dedicated the remainder of his life to serving God and began his journey under the leadership of Pastor Julius Hemphill. As a young child Norris vigorously studied to learn the Bible and cultivated a relationship with God; one that would prove vital to his future endeavors in life. He began his early ministry to God's people through his service as an usher and later through sharing the Word of God with people from all walks of life.

In 1943, the Howard family moved to Fort Worth, TX. Later that year Norris left Texas for sunny California with his brother-in-law, Leotha Willis, to find better employment opportunities. He transplanted to Oakland, CA and began working at Morris Shipyard, building ships in the capacity of a "defense worker".

In 1945, the war ended and Norris' future brother-in-law, Nathaniel Duffey, told him about work in Bakersfield, CA. Norris left for Bakersfield where he would meet his future wife, Lucille Duffey. He had known the Duffey brothers from Texas, but later met their younger sister Lucille in Bakersfield at a church meeting where he was serving as Chief Usher. One night as his post ended, Norris headed for the door and introduced himself to Lucille. After a discussion regarding Lucille's brothers that night, Norris and Lucille would continue seeing one another at church, and after becoming better acquainted, decided it was God's will that they marry and start of a family.

Over the next twelve years, Norris and Lucille would be blessed with eight children, four sons and four daughters. Norris worked diligently to provide for his family and in addition, began serving as a deacon at O Street Church under the leadership of the late Bishop Horace Douglas (presently named, Trinity C.O.G.I.C).

In the late 50's, He was appointed as Assistant Pastor of St. Paul C.O.G.I.C, under the leadership of Elder C. N. Rucker. By the early 60's, with the Lord's guidance, he founded Faith Temple C.O.G.I.C where he served as pastor for many decades and always kept an open door for traveling evangelists and missionaries from all over the country. Revered Howard often allowed these traveling ministries to run their revivals at the Faith Temple C.O.G.I.C.

In the late 60's, the Lord lead the Reverend and his family back to the Bay Area of California, where he founded the Second Faith Temple C.O.G.I.C. which was located in Berkeley, CA and later relocated to Oakland, CA.

While pastoring, he continued as a union worker for many years. He was an active member of both the Southern and Northern Carpenter's Unions until the time of his retirement in 1998.

Reverend Howard also, a man who felt education was important, graduated with two degrees in Theology, from Shiloh Bible College in Oakland, CA.

He was appreciated for many years as being a great teacher of God's word. He was very dependable, always available to serve, and did so with a willing and giving heart. He also, served as a National Adjutant to the COGIC; locally under Bishop W.W. Hamilton and at the national level under Bishop Charles Blake. Reverend Howard was the oldest adjutant serving in the C.O.G.I.C, which is a position that he operated in to help groom and teach the young men of the Adjutancy.

In his most recent years, Reverend Howard spent most of his time attending church meetings and serving as God has always lead him to do. He also spent a great deal of his time with his family and making it a point to stay connected to those he knew and loved by phoning them to let them know he was thinking of them. He was a faithful father and grandfather, and there was nothing he wouldn't do for his family.

Reverend Norris Howard was preceded in death by his late former wife and the mother of his children, District Missionary Lucille (Duffey) Howard, sons Egusta Jordan Howard and Billy Wayne Howard, his parents Willie and Arthula Howard and siblings: James Thomas, Egusta, Marshall, Hilasco, Nowemper, Lenton, Martin, Willie Fair (Carter), and Arthula Fig (Willis) and one special grandson Juan V. Howard.

He leaves to cherish his memories two sons, Willie Norris Howard, (Marian) of Escondido, CA, Dr. Herod Howard of San Diego, CA, four daughters, Ruth E. Cumberbatch (Elder Pete Cumberbatch) of Antioch, CA; Missionary Ira J. Ali of Bakersfield, CA; District Missionary Rachel Blake (Elder Ronald Blake) of Commerce City, CO, and Deborah A. Sulier (Ronald Sulier) of Bakersfield, CA grandchildren: Shun Whitfield-Shaw, Sibongile Howard, Sabrina Howard, Roitissa Davis, George Davis III, Michael Davis, Ceara Sulier, Rachel Blake, Ron-Esha Blake and Rae-Ocean Blake, fifteen great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandson, two sisters Annie Grace Hannon (Joe Hannon) of Hayward, CA and Pinkie Ann Sexton of Berkeley, CA, many devoted nieces, nephews, cousins and friends along with his church family that he loved dearly.

Order of Service

For

Supertinent Elder Norris Howard

Friday November 15, 2013

PROCESSIONAL:

SCRIPTURE:

Old Testament
New Testament

Supt. Elder R. Smith
Supt. Elder Henderson
Supt. Dr. Cox

PRAYER:

MUSICAL SELECTION:

Great granddaughters, The Davis Sisters

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CARDS CONDOLENCES:

Darcus Duffey

POEM:

Granddaughter, Roitissa Davis Castleberry

MUSICAL SELECTION:

Duffey Sisters

OBITUARY:

Gloria Clark

MUSICAL SELECTION:

Diane Duffey

EULOGY WORDS OF COMFORT

Bishop Bullock

PARTING VIEW A GLIMPSE TILL GLORY

Thompson Funeral Home Incharge

RECESSIONAL

SUNSET VIEW CEMETERY

Immediately following service



Active Pallbearers

**Mike Davis
George Davis**

Minister Justin Sexton

**C.T. Willis
Jacob C. Howard**

Honorary Pallbearers

**Hugh Carter
E.Z. Carter
Edward Willis**

**Cleo Willis
Willie Carter
Howaard Wallis**

In Appreciation

The family of the late Supt. Elder Norris Howard wishes to express their utmost and sincere appreciation for every act of kindness that has been expressed through prayers, beautiful flowers, cards, food, and to those appearing on the program.

We have been strenghened by your prayere and unselfish devotions.



Sunset View Cenetary
**Colusa and Fairmont Avenue
El Cerrito California, California
94530
510-525-5111**



Service Entrusted to:

**Thompson Funeral Home FD 1219
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Thompson's Bayview Mortuary FD 1928
415-822-2520**

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